COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

(323) 881-2401

December 17, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

AUTHORIZE THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO REIMBURSE LOCAL AGENCIES FOR EXPENSES RESULTING FROM PARTICIPATION ON THE DISTRICT'S URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE TASK FORCE (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD, ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY:

1. Authorize the Fire Chief of the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County (District) to enter into memoranda of understanding with local agencies, as required to fulfill the needs of the District's Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force, and to reimburse local agencies for all reimbursable costs incurred by the agencies as a result of their participation on the District's USAR Task Force, with such reimbursement to be of amounts allowed and funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Your Board approved the District's April 17, 2003 recommendation to accept grants from FEMA and USAID in support of the District's USAR Task Force. These grants provide funds for the development and training of a District USAR Task Force. Additionally, FEMA and

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

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USAID reimburse the District for costs associated with deployment of its USAR Task Force to

national and international disasters.

District personnel fill most positions of the USAR Task Force. However, some of the positions must sometimes be recruited from other local agencies. Authorization is requested for the Fire Chief to enter into memoranda of understanding with various agencies to use their personnel and/or equipment on the District's USAR Task Force, and to reimburse these agencies their costs as allowed and funded under FEMA and USAID guidelines.

As the sponsoring agency for the USAR Task Force, the District will receive reimburse-ment from FEMA for all activities associated with the deployment of USAR Task Force members, including those members recruited from local agencies. Local agencies cannot seek reimbursement directly from FEMA; their costs must be included as part of the overall cost of the District's USAR Task Force. This action will enable local agencies to recover their costs through the District. Reimbursable costs include, but are not limited to, personnel salary and employee benefits, overhead, and travel, and will be defined in the MOU between the District and each participating agency.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

None. All costs incurred by the District will be reimbursed by FEMA and/or has been provided for through grant funding.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

FEMA and USAID have provided the District with operational guidelines that detail the activities and costs eligible for reimbursement.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES OR PROJECTS

The District will be authorized to recruit and train very qualified members for its USAR Task Force for deployment to national and international disasters, which costs are funded by FEMA and/or USAID.

Respectfully submitted,

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

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c: Chief Administrative Officer County Counsel Auditor Controllerl